

The Vinita Chieftain.

Weekly Edition

The Vinita Chieftain is published every Thursday morning at Vinita, Indian Territory. It is the oldest and most extensively read newspaper in the Northern District. It is in its twenty-third year and has a general circulation throughout the north half of the Indian Territory. The subscription price of the paper is \$1.00 a year, always in advance. A postal card will get a sample copy anywhere in the United States.

D. M. MARRS, Editor and Owner.

Thursday VINITA, I. T. Aug. 2, 1905.

Missouri towns are having a time keeping the lid on these summer Sundays.

Governor Folk is stirring up any amount of trouble in Missouri by enforcing the law.

Muskogee may now get the Delmar racing club, as Governor Folk has driven it out of Missouri.

Now that Bob Owen has put his brand on the separate state convention all talk of it being a maverick should cease.

If Muskogee newspapers think for a moment they can excite the country by calling each other liars they are mistaken.

It will not be long until all railroad engines will be using crude oil for fuel. A recent experiment has proven to be a success.

The recent showers have assured many fields of fine corn. Wherever the land was dry enough to cultivate the crop will be good.

The woman who put up the money to carry Bluebeard Hoch's case to the supreme court probably only delayed his funeral a few months.

The Muskogee Democrat takes the separate state movement seriously. The amiable organ of Muskogee Democracy will know more later on.

One of the literary curiosities of the year is the type-written constitution of the separate state cranks. J. A. Norman's call is not in the same class.

There are those who don't care who dominated the Oklahoma convention. It is the work of that great convention that chiefly interests the people.

The Japs have settled the question of invasion of the Philippines by announcing that they would not have them as a free gift accompanied by a bonus. Wise are the Japs.

No one thing can please everybody. There are those who would rather have present conditions than statehood. And it is not the right of any man to deny them the privilege.

Col Bob Owens has at last broke silence and confessed to the ownership of the Constitutional convention called for Aug. 21, at Muskogee. The Colonel unbosomed himself in a St. Louis paper.

It sounds very much like irony for the advocates of separate statehood to be prating about prohibition when a bunch of drunken, maudlin Indian leaders are at the head of the movement. It is a forlorn hope that seeks to use the Indians to further a scheme of graft.

The Delmon Herald has just closed a losing fight in favor of saloons for its city. It will miss the wall of women rendered homeless and desolate, and the orphaned little ones and general debauchery it craved, and prayed and worked for. The Herald will be desolate for some time to come.

For many weary years it was represented at Washington that the Indians did not want their lands allotted. This was the cry of the land monopolist and the grafter, and it came from the same element that now declares the Indian don't want single statehood. Oh, the Indian! How many crimes are committed in his name?

The prospect of a compromise of the white intermarried citizen case which is now pending in the supreme court of the United States has disappeared, and the only thing left to be done is to fight it out in the court and abide by the decision. The opinion of the assistant attorney general to the Interior Department printed in this paper is not very clear save that the matter is in the court and all parties will have to keep hands off.

TOO HOT, MELLETTE.

Twelve ministers, representing every church in Muskogee have prepared a letter to the attorney general and President Roosevelt demanding to know whose duty it is to prosecute alleged violators of the Sunday labor law in the Indian Territory. This has grown out of a failure to stop Sunday baseball and Sunday theaters at the parks near the city. The letter alleges that complaint has been made to the district attorney, who says that he will not take action in the matter unless a warrant is sworn out and a bond for costs made. He says, however, that he will prosecute any person who is arrested. The United States marshal replies that he is ready to serve any warrants that are placed in his hands, and that it is not his duty to proceed further. The letter to the attorney general asks whose duty it is to see that the statutes are in force.

The city marshal of Tulsa made a cowardly assault on the editor of the Tulsa Democrat and was fined \$10. The paper had criticised some action of the marshal which it had the right to do, and would have been recreant to duty had it not done. It will be a sad day for Tulsa or any other city when the newspapers are forbidden to criticise public officials. The public at Tulsa should stand by the Democrat and oust the bruiser who is a disturber of the peace rather than its custodian.

Baseball players who hope to engage in amateur games in college have less excuse this summer than ever before for taking part in "summer baseball" under conditions contrary to the spirit of written or unwritten rules governing amateur sport. The evils of professionalism in college games—that is, playing for hire—have been widely exploited. Every college man knows the rules, and any boy who intends to go to college can get the rules by writing to the athletic association of any college.

In the navies of nearly all the maritime nations, except Great Britain and the United States, it is still the custom to deal out to the sailors a double portion of grog when they are about to go into action. The custom arose in the days when vessels lashed themselves together and the men fought hand to hand. The grog was supposed to stir them to unaccustomed fury. In these days of long range fighting, when clear heads and steady hands are essential, nothing could be more unfortunate than the allowance of grog; yet it is reported that the Russian sailors received a double portion before they entered the fight of the Sea of Japan.

The historian McCauley said of Frederick the Great that "he was a wonderful man, audacious, beligerant, and unrelenting, and his career was unique and astonishing." The military writers of the past and present. His ferocity was such that he was at war with the whole world in his religious views, and at war with the whole of Europe, without any resources except a bundle of original doggerel in his coat pocket and a bottle of corrosive sublimate in his vest pocket; determined to convince with the one or destroy himself with the other, rather than be captured." The Republican party of the Indian Territory is being directed by a similar genius.

A story is being told of a Sileam young lady who found a package of love letters that had been written to her mother by her father before they were married. The daughter saw that she could have some sport, and read them to her mother, substituting her own name for that of her mother and that of a Six Mile young man for that of her father. The mother jumped up and down in her chair, shifted her feet and seemed utterly disgusted, and forbade her daughter to have anything to do with the young man who wrote such non-sensical stuff to a girl. When the young lady handed the letter to her mother to read, the house became so still that one could almost hear the grass growing in the back yard.

The Muskogee Times, always noted for its veracity, says that forty Indian Territory weekly newspapers have declared for separate statehood. The esteemed Times does not go to the trouble of naming the forty papers, but of course it could do so. This incident brings to mind a little story: A preacher once upon a time came upon a group of small boys seated in a circle with a small yellow dog in the middle. The good man asked what sort of a game it was, and one of the boys said: We are going to give the dog to the one who can tell the biggest lie. The preacher said: When I was a boy I never told a lie. After a short pause a boy remarked, give him the dog.

Did you ever notice the difference in the man who is going somewhere and the fellow who is just walking about to kill time and see what he can see. Look out on the street any time a nd you will see men going at a rapid, straight gait, eagerly and firmly stepping on the sidewalk. They are going somewhere and there is no uncertainty in this step. Then there are others, plenty of them too, who are passed by the man who is going somewhere. They walk more slowly and with uncertainty. They are going no where in particular. They are simply walking about. There is a great lesson in life to be drawn from these walkers. Boys and young men especially ought to be going some where and ought to be sure of the place. The indefinite aim in the life brings the slow, straggling gait.

GREATER OKLAHOMA.

Two years ago the majority of the Committee on Territories brought into the senate as a substitute for the pending measure a bill uniting Indian Territory and Oklahoma. At the time that thought was presented it found chilly reception in this body. It was resisted by most of the politicians both in the Indian Territory and in Oklahoma, and the country received it with indifference. Two years have passed. Nothing has been done in its behalf. No propaganda has been conducted to further that idea. It has depended only upon its own vitality. But the idea was lodged in the minds of the people of those two territories, and it has grown until it has formed an irresistible power, so that the people of these territories themselves today are a unit upon this question, and the politicians there, in obedience to the universal public demand, have also agreed upon it.

Not only that, but the idea of single statehood captured the country, and I hold here in my hand editorials from papers all over this nation advocating this course, regardless of party. In addition, the idea has grown until in this body itself receives almost the overwhelming approval of senators. And now we are to have a single magnificent state made by the reunion of these two territories, a commonwealth unimagined in

the Republic in generous resources, delightful climate, and a splendid citizenship—for such is the Greater Oklahoma for which this bill provides and the only Oklahoma that is possible to be made a State.—Extract from a Speech of Senator Beveridge.

OUR STATE UNIVERSITY.

Dr. Ernest T. Bynum, of the faculty of the University of Oklahoma, has been a visitor in our city for the past few days. The institution with which he is connected is designed as the head and source of Oklahoma's educational system where the best and highest educational advantages are offered free to the young people of the territory. It is of especial interest for the people of Indian Territory to know at this juncture, when so many are thinking of sending their sons and daughters away to school, that the university has assumed the name of "State University," and offers to educate all the young people of both territories at the expense of the taxpayers of Oklahoma. Its advantages are freely given to any who have finished the eighth grade in the city schools; for besides the course leading to the bachelor's degree and the professional schools of medicine, pharmacy, engineering, mining and the fine arts, a preparatory school of the highest quality is conducted in connection with the university proper. The funds for the support of this institution are provided out of the territorial treasury and will amount this year to \$75,000 or more, \$50,000 of which is the annual legislative appropriation, while the rest accrues from various sources. None of the cost of maintenance is borne by the students who attend from Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. The people of Oklahoma in thus opening their splendidly equipped university for the free education of our sons and daughters, have been generous in a way that is eminently worthy of our appreciation and esteem. The object for which states provide such free education is to train the young people of one generation for civic responsibility and leadership in the next; and so in the event of single statehood, now apparently assured, the wise purposes of the founders of the University of Oklahoma are conserved only in the free education of all the young people who are to constitute the citizenship of the new state. Norman, the seat of the university, is located seventeen miles south of Oklahoma City, in what will be the center of the new state. The town has everything to commend it as a seat of learning, and the university there, of which all Oklahomans are justly proud, has been equipped with every adequate facility which a generous people could bestow. Dr. Bynum says the institution will open up the 12th of September, and an inspiring spectacle it will present when seven hundred young men and women representing the best blood and future hope of our two territories assemble there in the fall to receive the ideal blessings of education from a state they are taught to love. Besides the university, an industrial school of the highest rank at Stillwater, known as the Agricultural and Mechanical college, and three Normal schools, one each in Edmond, Alva, and Weatherford, are free to the people of the Indian Territory. It is hoped that our people will make a liberal response in the matter of patronage and loyal support to all these educational institutions in Oklahoma. When statehood arrives our people will cheerfully contribute their share in taxation to the maintenance of all these schools, and if any of the Normals should be moved to this end of the new state we believe no better location could be found than our own city of Vinita.

The Muskogee Phoenix imperiously demands to know how the Capital stands on statehood. Unlike some newspapers which are forever trimming to fit local and political sentiment, this paper is still true to the cause for which it has long and faithfully labored; a cause it believes is right. We stand for statehood. This does not imply, however, that we are committed to the worship of false gods or heathen prophets. We reserve the right to take our statehood straight without political, or scheming favors. There are several ways to accomplish an end but the Muskogee way does not impress us as the proper procedure to gain statehood either with or without Oklahoma. We are for statehood, remember, but are not willing to play half brother to the fellow who is not. We smell treachery.

THE LAST OBSTACLE REMOVED.

The Territory papers are taking the separate state constitutional convention too seriously. The truth is that the leaders in this movement are about evenly divided so far as influence goes between a desire for no legislation, separate statehood and joint statehood. The latter element believes that with the Indian on record

asking for legislation the last objection to immediate action by Congress on a joint statehood bill is removed and it is for this reason that a very considerable amount of the support locally is given to the movement. The convention will be held, it will be well attended from the Creek and Cherokee nations, resolutions will be passed favoring legislation and a constitution will probably be framed. A report of the proceedings will be sent to Washington and the only thing Congress will give attention to in the entire proceedings will be that the Indians have at last voluntarily consented to the enactment of a statehood bill and the erection of a state form of government over their former domain. With evidence of these facts before them the members of the House and Senate will promptly proceed to the passage of a bill making a state of the two territories, and the feeble objection that may be offered will be met with the statement that the Indians' consent having been secured the last obstacle has been overcome and no further delay in giving justice to a million and a half people will be tolerated.—Muskogee Phoenix.

"In every community there is an element of negative and, of course, utterly useless persons who stand in the way of progress. There is also in every community a smaller element of active knockers. Men who believe that all else than themselves are dishonest and are not certain they could withstand temptation. In the name of reform they constantly exert themselves to head off every step looking toward progress. These men have always been present to annoy, but at the present time they imagine themselves to be Roosevelt or Folks and must do something. Their mission is never to build up but to tear down. They never lead in any enterprise for the advancement of city, country or humanity but look studiously for the people who do these things and then begin to tear their work to pieces in hope of finding a flaw. They never aid the poor, never build churches, never bring railroads, never build cities, but stand aside grumbling while others do these things and then with malicious glee begin to blacken the character of the man who have accomplished these works for the good of the whole community. They are suspicious, vindictive and malicious in their opposition to every man who does acts of generosity and patriotism. They have reversed Pope's celebrated saying that 'Whatever is right, is right; whatever is wrong, is wrong,' and should be undone. The poor wretches are to be pitied. Think, if you can, of the wretchedness of the man who believes all men about him to be dishonest! Then if he should imagine himself honest, his distress of mind must indeed be intense. The world can be thankful that there are but few of these evil spirits at large to annoy people in a normal state of mind. The world is very much in need of reformers, but they should be of sound mind."—Oklahoma Times-Journal.

RIGHT AND MIGHT.

That "Might makes right" is a doctrine which has always been abhorrent to believers in a republican form of government, and, indeed, to all who revere human liberty and abject justice. Any defense of the doctrine seems at first thought to be subversive of all ethical standards. There is everywhere among civilized peoples a growing tendency to apply to nations and governments the same moral rules which have long been applied to individuals, and the result is, in the main, to the benefit of humanity.

The process must not, however, be carried too far, for then it develops a narrowness of vision impossible with the most efficient statesmanship. President James B. Angell in his recent Phi Beta Kappa oration at Harvard touched upon some of the cases in which nations cannot be governed by the ethics of individuals and in which, in some sense, might does make right.

To most Americans the "European concert" represents the perpetuation of injustice, yet a broader view presents it in a different light. Let it be recognized that the "concert" has kept the Sultan of Turkey on his throne, and has failed to punish his misdeeds; that it has not given to Greece all that it desired or deserved, and that it has done or left undone other things the omission or performance of which would better have satisfied the universal sense of justice. Yet it must also be recognized that it has preserved the peace of Europe, and so performed a service of transcendent justice.

In America the Monroe doctrine involves the use of power similar to that which the European concert exercises in the other hemisphere. By what right shall the United States decide what European nations may do with the independent governments in South America? The answer is, by the right of eighty or ninety millions of people to judge more wisely than ten or twenty millions and to plan more surely for the general welfare of all.

This is the doctrine of the will of the majority, upon which all republics rest. Heretofore it has been applied only to the people of one city or state or nation. Now it is beginning to be regarded in the light of applicability to the community of nations.—Youth's Companion.

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